

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The battery cell holder securely holds a plurality of electrical cells in a battery pack. The battery cell holder comprises at least two separate types of layers that are bound to each other to form opposing faces. The first layer is made of a material that absorbs aqueous solutions, particularly liquid electrolyte solutions used in metal-air cells, and preferably contacts an outward facing portion of each battery cell in the battery pack. This material acts to limit the spread of leaking electrolyte solution so that the electrolyte solution cannot spread to other cells and cause electrical short circuits between the cells in the battery pack. The second layer is made of a material that is light, flexible, inexpensive, electrically non-conductive and impermeable to liquids. The latter prevents seepage of absorbed electrolyte from the casing. The holder may be made of inexpensive materials and avoid a need for complete encapsulation of the cells.

20041101 11:00:00